

Serial No. 09/740,322
Atty. Doc. No. 00P9077US

REMARKS

Claims 6-9 and 35-38 are pending in the application. In light of the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims.

Rejection of Claims 1-9 and 30-38 Under §102

Claims 1-9 and 30-38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) based on U.S. Patent No. 2,112,747 ("Wood"). Claims 1-5 and 30-34 have been cancelled. For the following reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 6-9 and 35-38.

Wood does not teach or suggest "an elongate spring bar" as recited by claims 6 and 35. The elongate spring bar is an important feature of the invention recited in claims 6 and 35. Applicant has determined that transients in a power generation system can cause a generator's stator core to deform in both a radial and tangential direction. The deformation produces undesirable radial and tangential displacement and/or vibration. Applicant's elongate spring bar plays an important role in providing the required flexibility and stiffness axis to absorb the radial and tangential displacement and vibration and thus to extend the useful life of the power generation system. Applicant's elongate spring bar configuration also significantly reduces the complexity of the structure required to support the stator core in the generator.

Based on the above, Applicant respectfully submits that Wood does not teach or suggest all of the limitations of Applicant's invention as recited by claims 6 and 35. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration of the rejection of claims 6 and 35 and of claims 7-9 and 36-38, which depend from claims 6 and 35, respectively.

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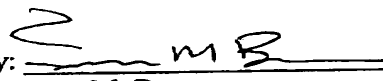
CONCLUSION

In light of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 6-9 and 35-38. Should the Examiner have any questions concerning this paper or application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney to resolve such issue or question.

The commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees due in connection with this paper or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-2179.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1/22/03

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

6. (Amended) A power generation system comprising:

a stator core frame support member having a lower inner surface portion and a lower outer surface portion, the lower outer surface portion positioned to contact a support surface;

a generator stator core including a plurality of longitudinally extending keybars spaced-apart along outer peripheral portions of the generator stator core, the generator stator core positioned to overlie the lower inner surface portion of the stator core frame support member and further having a lower end portion positioned spaced-apart from and not in contact with bottom portions of the lower inner surface portion of the frame support member; and

a core supporter connected to the stator core frame support member and positioned to contact the plurality of keybars along outer side peripheries of the generator stator core, the core supporter having first and second core connecting means for connecting the stator core frame support member to the generator stator core to thereby relieve vibration and prevent lateral movement of the generator stator core, and further stabilize the power generation system during operation, the first core connecting means being connected to a first medial side outer peripheral portion of the generator stator core and the second core connecting means being connected to a second medial side outer peripheral portion of the generator stator core and positioned opposite the first medial side outer peripheral portion of the generator stator core so that the first and second core connecting means are positioned substantially symmetric about opposite medial side portions of the generator stator core

[The power generation system as defined in Claim 5,] wherein the [at least one biasing support member] the first and second core connecting means further comprises an elongate

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spring bar and a plurality of bracket spring assemblies connected to and positioned spaced-apart along the elongate spring bar, each of the plurality of bracket spring assemblies comprising a spring mounting frame and a plurality of spaced-apart key block brackets connected to the spring mounting frame.

35. (Amended) A power generation system comprising:

a stator core frame support member having a lower inner surface portion and a lower outer surface portion in contact with a support surface;

a generator stator core comprising a plurality of longitudinally extending keybars spaced-apart along outer peripheral portions of the generator stator core, and a lower portion spaced-apart from and not in contact with the lower inner surface portion of said frame support member;
and

first and second core connectors connected to said stator core frame support member to contact adjacent keybars along respective first and second opposing side peripheries of said generator stator core

[A power generation system as defined in Claim 34] wherein the [at least one biasing support member] first and second core connectors further comprise[s] an elongate spring bar and a plurality of spaced-apart bracket spring assemblies connected thereto, each of said plurality of bracket spring assemblies comprising a spring mounting frame and a plurality of spaced-apart key block brackets connected thereto.